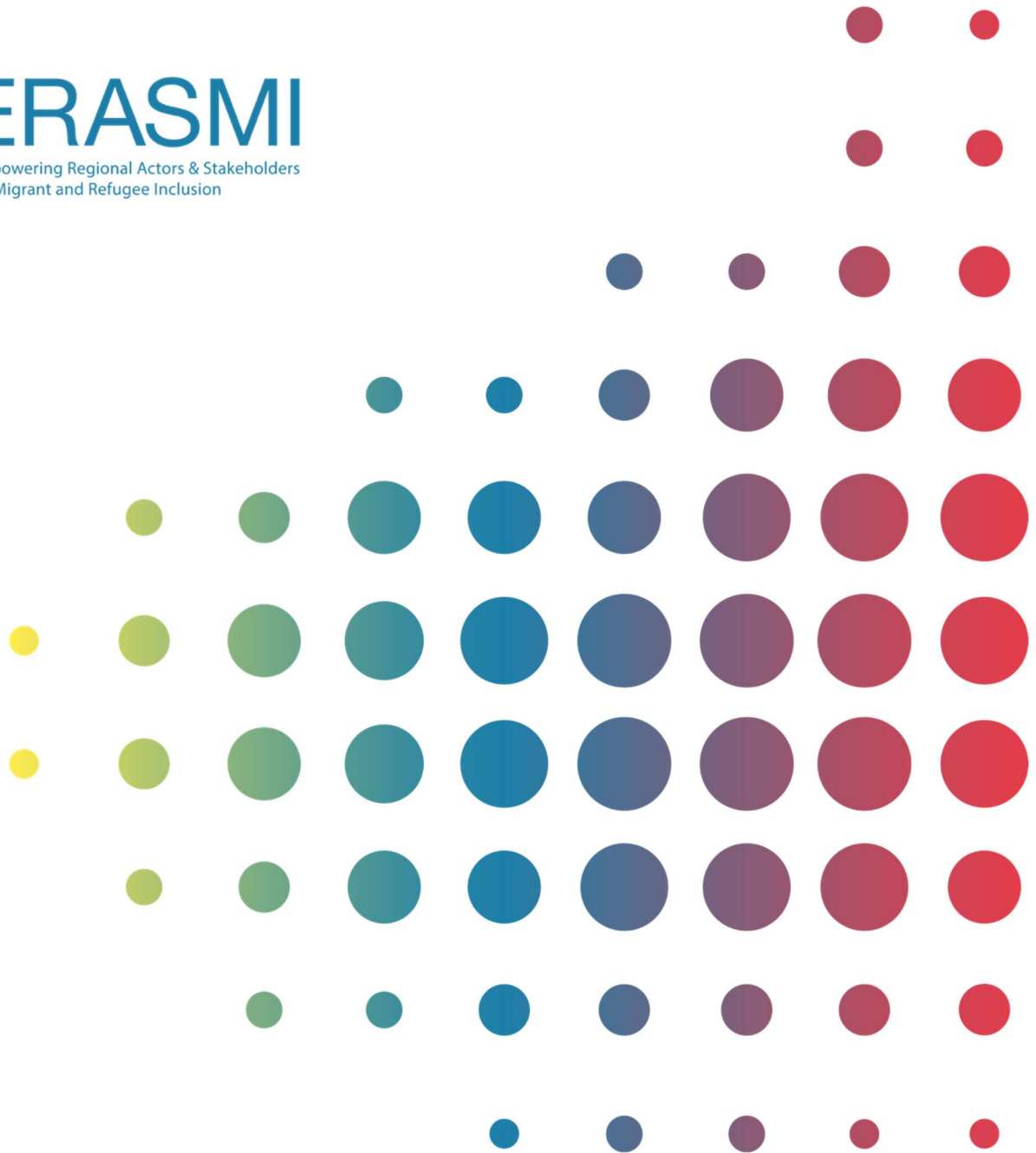




ERASMI

Empowering Regional Actors & Stakeholders
for Migrant and Refugee Inclusion



Good Practice: VOICES OF YOUNG REFUGEES IN EUROPE

Status of information: January 2021

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of the network	Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE)
Founding year	2008
Location	Headquarter in Strasbourg, France
Coordinating Organisation	No coordinating organisation
Degree of formalisation	Soft formal agreements and norms (Members sign up to network)
Members	Young refugees, migrants and asylum seekers and member organisations working with these young people
Field(s) of action	Inclusion / Integration in general; Education and training; Advocacy; Participation
Target group(s)	Refugees, Migrants, NGOs, Volunteers
Type of network	Migrant Network

2. NETWORK PROFILE

Brief description	VYRE as an international network created by, with and for young refugees in the effort to unify and strengthen the voices of individual young refugees and refugee organisations in Europe. It is indispensable as many young people with refugee background in Europe face discrimination and very often exclusion when it comes to possibilities for participation in the society. The network is run as an international youth organisation, in which members can share experiences and raise common concerns, acquire new skills and strengthen their capacities, can contribute to a Europe with greater knowledge of the reasons for being a refugee and with greater capacity for building social cohesion with intercultural learning as a base.
Resources	Funding granted by different institutions and grant schemes for various projects, often in partnership with other organisations.
Internal Communication & Facilitation techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media and various online groups • E-mail • Website • Slack • WhatsApp channels • Study sessions and trainings • Wide range of non-formal education methods • Manuals developed by the Council of Europe Youth Department
External Communication & Event formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in various events and meetings • Homepage and partner websites • Social media



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3. SUCCESS FACTORS AND MAIN CHALLENGES

<p>Success factors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with and for young refugees, they remain the centre of work • Capacity building and building confidence of members is key to success • Supporting members to act as multipliers in their local communities is a key focus • Informal moments and developing positive relationships are central to work both internally and externally • Provide a platform for opportunities and learning for our members • Provide a platform for sharing between various actors, e.g. young refugees, government bodies, youth workers and international organisations.
<p>Challenges & Lessons learnt</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of the organisation can land on a few key people. The network has had to try to support young people to get more involved. • Attention of young refugees and migrants at events: It can be complicated due to legal status and travel restrictions. Network management tries to support organisations to develop actions at a local level and work with partners to support young people to travel to the events, getting visas etc. Time is key here. • Members have a huge amount going on in their lives with their situations often changing quickly and frequently. Network management tries to keep in touch and remain flexible and adaptable to members' needs.
<p>Evaluation & Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluations with members and partners • Lots of non-formal education techniques and typically evaluation questionnaires are used • Working on longer term bigger projects currently and trying to develop further the reach • Aiming to get more people involved actively in the strategy and management of the organisation
<p>Impact, Innovation & Transferability</p>	<p>It is a huge support network where friendships and positive relationships developed. They also focus on the young person and supporting them to participate in different arenas and develop their skills and knowledge in the ways that they wish. VYRE training programmes are seen as empowering because people come together at the end of a training programme, develop friendships, share important moments and experiences together, and supporting each other. With their new expertise, they go on to create change in their local communities.</p>



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4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Website, Social Media	Website: www.wearevyre.net/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/WeAreVYRE/
E-Mail-Address	/

